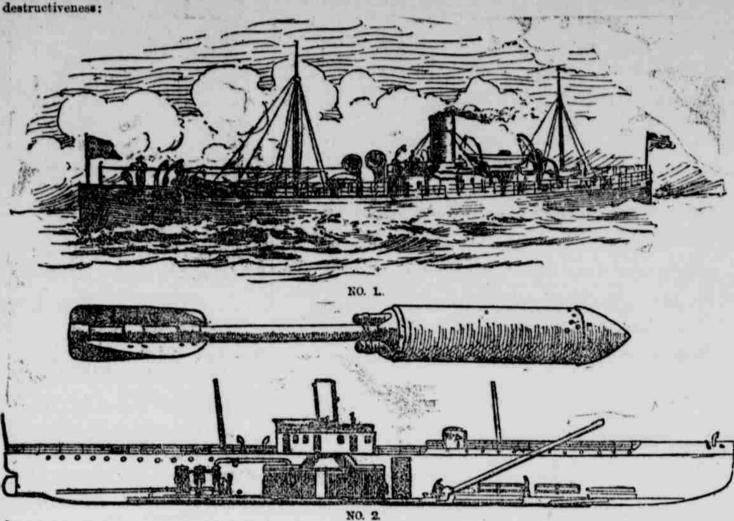
### OUR KING OF WAR SHIPS.

With a Speed of Nearly Twenty-five Miles and Guns that Throw 600 Pounds stirrups placed a couple of inches further back. As it is, a man riding in a McClellan saddle has to bend his leg

In the following cuts the main and characteristic features of the dynamite cruiser Vesuvius are made apparent, without exactly attempting to illustrate the complete mechanism of the guns or details of ship construction in cross sections of the hull. At a glance these illustrations will make clear the vessel's lines and the secret of her awful



contract demanded but 3,200.

dynamite guns in the ship, as well as ward, again completing the continuity the arrangement of the pneumatic sys- of the barrel. The revolver is then tem wherein is generated the propul- turned one division, so as to be ready sive force applied to these extraordi- for supplying a second shell. When nary guns. As shown in cut No. 1, the the after revolver is empty it is filled ship has three fixed guns projecting from the forward one in the same way. above her deck near the bow at an All these maneuvers are executed by angle of about 18 degrees. These guns hydraulic power. Each gun will have are 54 feet long, 15 inches in diameter, about ten projectiles.

of thin cast iron, and are not rifled. In the light armor-covered tower is iron, sixteen inches in diameter, and gun carriage to determine his fire. thirteen-sixteenth inches thick. The The figure above No. 2 shows the firing reservoirs contain 210 cubic feet of formidable projectile of this sea terror of compressed air, the storage reser- Vesuvius. The full-sized shell for the voirs contain 420. It is proposed to Vesuvius' guns is 142 inches in diamestore the air at 2,000 pounds pressure | ter, and its body is about 7 feet long. per square inch, the compressor being Back of the body is a tail fitted with able to deliver 140 cubic feet of air at spiral vanes, which secures its align-

Cut No. 1 shows the Vesuvius in | reservoir is to be maintained at a pres- | of thin-drawn brass tubing, and will motion, the fastest vessel afloat. She sure of 1,000 pounds. Each shot at hold 600 pounds of high explosive is a steel ship of 725 tens displacement, one mile range reduces its pressure 150 dynamite or gelatine, the whole weigh-252 feet long, 261 feet wide, steered by pounds. The deficit is immediately ing about 1,500 pounds when charged. steam, and drawing a maximum of 9 supplied from the storage reservoir. feet, though her main draught is 84. Under the rear of each gun are placed Her engines are of the four cylinder, 'two "revolvers" in line with each other. triple expansion type. The Vesuvius Each contains five chambers, for hold-on her final trip at Philadelphia steaming as many torpedoes. To load a ed at the rate of 21.64 knots per hour, gun, its breech is dropped, swinging do when brought into action against an whereas the contract called for but 20 downward on a pivot at its extreme enemy is a problem that the future knots. This speed lacks but 6-10ths rearward end. The opening points may solve with astonishing results. of being 25 statute miles per hour. On forward and comes directly opposite this occasion the vessel's total horse-power was calculated to be 4,445. The the after revolver. By a hydraulic ontract demanded but 3,200. ram the shell is pushed into the Cut No. 2 shows the position of the breech, which is at once swung up-

The air for discharging the projectiles the real artillerist of the ship, since is compressed by two compressors from that point will the desirable into reservoirs consisting of a number range be obtained and the ship manof tubes. These are made of wrought | euvered, as a field artillerist moves his

that pressure every hour. The firing ment and rotation. The body is made

What this type of gun can do at a distance of about a mile we already know. What the Vesuvius can do in open water with all steam on we already know. What the Vesuvins and her guns can

> The Vesuvius, Hev. Britannia, take a chass Squint at nour Vesuvius! Buther guess yewr navy s junk, Sho! It might es well be sunk. Fust es last; fer -yes, siree -We've tuck a notion tew th' sea! We've tuck a notion tew th' sea!
>
> Ef yewens ever tackle her
> Yew'll diskiver what's she's fer—
> An' 'tain't fer hevin' it yewr way
> Yew can bet, Britannia!
> Spose ye hev sloshed rabund th' seas,
> B' al a scepyin' sour idees?
> Yew'll hev't copy as agin,
> Britannia, an then not win!
> Es fer yew ralin' uv th' main,
> 'Tain t a present quite's' plain!
> Gosh! but wouldn', ye strike a muss
> Fightin' sour Vesavins!
> Dangd of I wouldn't like t' see
> Sech a scrimma a os taey d'be— Danga of I won ant like t see
> Sech a scrimma he es they d be—
> All vewr old per-menal ships
> Lost like cra kern offen whips!
> It a time Europeans should know
> We're fixed for eamy furrin foe.
> And thet it ain't all in nour fleets—
> The'es t' thet it's nour ship beats.
> We kep th' flag affect on Erie,
> With craft thet wan't fit for a ferry The likeliest not with a cuss: An' speakin' o' th' Vesuvius, It's jes' es safe t' bet on her Es 'twuz on th' little Moniter, ''Old Ironddes,'' or thet old arow Thet Perry won with—I erd knows how And not because she's stanch an quick, But bein' sours she's baound t' lick.

TONS OF MAIL MATTER. class matter are canceled by only ten the sacque was given into the hands of THE INSIDE WORKINGS OF A GREAT

A Peep Inside the Chicago Office-How the Enormous Masses of Letters and Papers Are Handled and Distributed-Some Odd Packages Received.

POSTOFFICE.



HE inside workings of the Chicago Postoffice are as unknown to the average citizen as are the secrets of a yeast powder or oleomargarine fac-

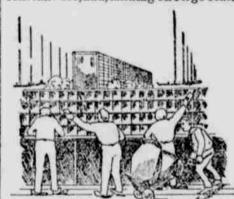
The Postoffice building occupies a space of one block square, and

time they see daylight is while on their way to work. In this basement, under the glare of innumerable incandescent that which bears stamps, is received in electric lamps, the bulk of the mail is the southern chute and is stacked up handled. The manner in which it is in the stamping-room. This room is worked is as follows:

are two large chutes or slides. These force of about ten men work in this are for the reception of the mail. The room. As the stamps are canceled the of the Mexican saddle is that a man one to the north is for second class mail is dropped into bags, which, when sitting in it has his legs almost straight matter, which consists of newspapers filled, are taken out into the distributand regular publications. The other ing department. One can hardly conis for third and fourth class matter, ceive the great diversity of the mail of such as books, papers, bundles or pack-ages of merchandise bearing stamps. The mail begies to arrive in the morn-a bass-drum, is handled in this departing and gradually increases until between the hours of 6 and 8 o'clock any stoves, grates, single screws, stoveday may be seen a string of wagons often reaching from the chutes clear parts of sewing machines, old pieces of around to Clark street or further, waiting for their turn to dump their loads of mail. To give the reader some the articles which are daily handled. idea of the vast amount of mail matter | One firm alone sends every day a twowhich is thus received into the office. the following figures, taken from the weighmaster's books, are given, showing one week's receipts:

fourth class. mailer. .61 155

When a load is dumped into the second class chute it glides down on boards worn as smooth as glass from constant use, and, landing on large scales



underneath it is a | 10x14 feet in circumference, the weight commodious base is recorded. It is then loaded into ment, where an tracks by men in waiting, who cart it garmy of clerks into the center of the basement, where struggles with the each bag is immediately inspected to enormous quantity | see if the addresses run to any particuof mail which hour-ly pours into the run to one State only, as Iowa, for inoffice. These men stance, it is taken to the clerk who diswork from noon until midnight, sur- tributes ma I for that State. Should rounded by four stone walls as solid the mail be mixed-East, West, North and grimy as any prison's. The only and South-it is taken to the clerk whose duty it is to separate it.

The third and fourth class mail, or orked is as follows:

In the western side of the building basement by a heavy wire grating. A a bass-drum, is handled in this department. Old door hinges, pieces of lifters, banjos, overcents, old socks, iron bolts, newspaper cuts, picture frames and feather pillows are a few of horse wagon-load of catalogues and general merchandise. This merchan-dise is usually sent to towns which do not possess an express office and which may be easily reached by rost. No piece (unless it be a sirgle book) weighs less than four pounds; which is the limit to this class of matter. Some queer expeliencies are resorted to in sending articles of overweight, as, for

illustration: handled by only sixty-nine men. All in the town and there being danger of his fest planted firmly in his stirrups if you didn't owe me that fity dollars. the stamps on the third and fourth damage or loss in sending it by freight, underneath him, and pointing straight - Texas Siftings.

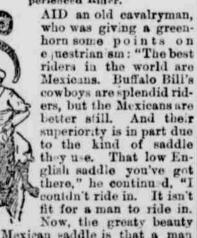
and they were mailed.

A large bicycle was recently taken apart and sent piecemeal through the mail with the two heaviest bars, or "backbone," which weighed a trifle more than four pounds.

Some pers as use little discretion in ma ling frail articles. Almost daily a bonnet, or a bir hday card, or some wedding cake inclosed in a light pasteboard box passes through the office. What wonder is it that when it arrives at its destination it is found scattered promisenously through the bag when it is known that in transit a ton of heavy merchandise and papers have been resting on it?

# HOW TO SIT A HORSE.

An Old Cavalryman's Fo niers to an Inex- States: perienced Rider.



fit for a man to ride in. Now, the greaty beauty



THE ENGLISH STYLE.

shead, parallel with the horse. Our McClellan saddle would be as good as the Mexican saddle if it only had the at the knee in the English style. Now, with the knee bent it is almost impos-sible to keep your feet pointed straight

"The position of the feet," the impromptu riding-master continued, after pausing a moment to allow his casual pupil to absorb what he had already said, "is a very important thing in learning to ride properly; in fact, it is the thing. And yet nine-tenths of the riders you see about the streets and country roads every day have their toes at an angle of forly-five degrees from the sides of the horse. As a consequence, these riders can't have a firm seat, and don't enjoy the exercise half as much as they would if they rode

more properly."
"How is it the way the toes point has so much to do with good riding?"

"To sit firmly on a horse and at the same time to have the body erect and free to give with the horse's motion,' the cavalryman said, "you must grip the animal's sides with your knees. Not with the calves of the legs, mind. Now, if you don't keep your toes pointing straight ahead, or nearly so, it is impossible to get this grip with the knees. Turn your toes out and you will find at once that you grip the horse with the calves of your legs, and that your body is thrown forward from the hips, instead of being erect. Experiment a little when you get on your horse, and you'll see it works just as I say. But if you keep your feet straight, hold tight with your knees and sit erect, you will find you can accommodate yourself to the motions of the horse more readily and gracefully, your seat will be firmer, and riding will not

tire you near so quickly.
"If you will notice old cavalrymen when they walk," the gentleman continued, "you will see that instead of spreading their feet apart they keep them parallel. This is the result of their riding, and it often makes them very ungraceful on their feet. The best and most graceful rider I knew



THE MEXICAN STYLE.

was General Ashby, who was killed during the late war. I never saw any man who looked so handsome on horseback. Off the horse, however, he walked like a du k and was so clumsy that he couldn't get into a parlor without falling over all the furniture in

A Mexican astride his high-curved saddle with his legs hanging straight down, rides as easily as if he were sitting in a rocking chair, and at the same time it is almost impossible to unseat a seamstress, who ripped or en the back him. He is clothes-pinned on the seam and made the sacque into two horse and the latter can't get from unpackages, weighing about three pounds, der him. But a man riding on a flat English saddle with short stirrups, his legs bent at the knee, and his toes turned out, has no chance when his herse jumps suddenly. He is in a cramped position, and is almost sure to be thrown forward on the horse's neck or over his head."

# College Libraries.

New York Mail and Express: The number of volumes in a library is not always a criterion of its value to the student, but it is interesting to know the extent to which the colleges of the United States have accumulated libraries and their comparative sizes. We append a list showing the number of bound volumes in the libraries of the principal colleges of the United

PURE STORY	
University of Va. 40,000	Harvard 365,000
	Vale
Let igh 67,000	- warthmore 24,00
	Bowdoin 49,000
	Dickinson 23,0 c
	Syracuse 75,000
	Malison 18,000
	Co well 150,000
	Union 36,000
Unix of California 8 0	Columbia 90,000
College City N. Y.23 000	Dartmouth 08,5 0
Ohio University 8, 0	Turts 25, 0
William 1 2 , 500	Pennsylvania 21, 00
Euigers30,00	
Maryville	
Roanoke	
Wooster 12,0 0	
Univ. N. Carolina 5, 0	
Bates	
Bucknell	
Times of Townsto 10 00	Vasaar 15,000
Univ. Nashville, 15,000	Well: sley 40,0 4
Princeton660	
Adelbort 22.8.6	
ATTENDOOR STATE OF ST	Chit. of Admi bjeo.
The same of the sa	
The Purpose o	f All Industry.
The second secon	

It is a curious thought that all the huge value of traffic, production, dis-

tribution, and conversion has for its end and objective point the supply of each inhabitant with a few feet of boards over his head, sustained by bricks or timber; about ten pounds of wool, sixteen pounds of cotton converted into clothing, a barrel of flour and two or three hundred pounds of meat each year, and a little sugar, a glass of beer, about five pounds of solid or liquid food par day; these constituting the necessaries of life. Some one has said that life would not be worth living except for its luxuries, and that time would not be worth having except for the hours that could be saved for leisure. How much of luxury and how much of leisure can the average man get out of what fifty to fiftyfive cents a day will buy for his shelter, food and clothing?-Forum.

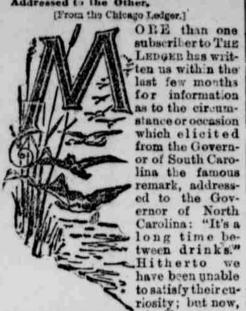
Not All a Dream.

First Friend-Well, go' bye; we've had a high old time, haven't we? To me it seems like a dr. am.

Friend -So it would to me, old man,

WHAT ONE GOVERNOR SAID TO AN-

The Historic Meeting Between the Executives of South and North Carolina, and the Famous Remark Which the One Addressed to the Other,



through the kindness of a Texas correspondent, we are enabled to supply the coveted information. Mr. Ernest Wyatt, of Dallas, in that State, sends us the annexed excerpt from an old serap-book, which embraces a circumstantial narrative of the historic epi-

A great many years ago the Governor of North Carolina received a friendly visit from the Governor of South Carolina. After a real North Carolina dinner of bacon and yams, the two Governors lit pipes and sat in the shade of the back veranda with a demijohn of real North Carolina corn-whisky, copper-distilled, within easy reach, whisky, copper-distilled, within easy reach,
"There is nothing stuck up about those
Governors," says a North Carolina State
historian, in the homely but vigorous language of his section. "There they sot
and smoked, and sot and smoked, every
once and awhile taking a mutual pull at
the demijohn with the aid of the gourd,
which they used as a democratic goblet.
The conversation between the two Governors was on the subject of turneratine and ernors was on the subject of turpentine and

rice, the staples of their respective States,

and the further they got into the subject the lower down they got into the jug. and



THEY SAT AND SMOKED AND ARGUED.

the lower they got into the jug the dryer the Governor of South Carolina got, who was a square drinker and a warm man, with about a million pores to every square his hide, which enabled him to histe in a likely share of corn-juite or oth-or beverage, and keep his careass at the same time well ventilated, and generally always ready for more, while the Governor North Carolina was a more cautious drinker, but was mighty sure to strike bot-tom at about the twelfth drink, like as if

nature had measured him by the gourdful.
"Well, they sot and smoked and argued,
and the Governor of North Carolina was as
hospitable as any real Southern gentleman could be, for he ladled out the whisky in the most liberal manner, being particular to give his distinguished guest three drinks to his one, and gauging his own drinks with great care, for fear that if he didn't he might lose the thread of his argument and the demijohn might run dry before the Governor of South Carolina should be ready to dust out for home, in which case it would dust out for home, in which case it would look like he had not observed the laws of hospitality, which would have been a self-inflicted thorn in his side for years to come, and no amount of apology could ease his mind or enable him to feel warranted in showing his countenance to his fellow-men, especially in his home district, where for especially in his home district, where for generations it had been a main point with every goatleman to keep his visitor well supplied with creature comforts, and to hand him a good gourdful as a stirrupcup when about to make his departure for the bosom of his family. Singular to relate, the cautiousness manifested by the Governor of North Carolina was of no avail, for at one and the same time the jug west day and the Governor of North Caro. went dry, and the Governor of North Caro-lina, much to his subsequent mortification, when he learned the fact afterward, dropped



\*GOVERNOR, DON'T YOU THINK IT'S A LONG TIME BETWEEN DRINKS?"

on the a quiet sleep, while the Governor of South Carolina continued to keep on with his argument, holding the empty gourd in his hand in close contiguousness to the demijohn, and wondering at the apparent absent-mindedness of his hitherto attentive host, to whom, after a minute and a half of painful silence, he made use of but one remark: 'Governor, don't you think it's a long time between drinks?' The remark was overheard by George, body servant of the Governor of North Carolina, who, knowing that there was something wrong, took to the woods, where he remained in seeln-sion for three days; but the Governor of South Carolina, receiving no reply from the Governor of North Carolina, mounted his horse and rode sadly homeward, with an irrepressible feeling at his heart that there was coming to be a hollowness in friend-ship, and that human nature was in danger of drifting into a condition of chaotic mockery."

"WILLIAM HENRY, you have the elements of greatness in you, and if you were not so indel nt you might be a famous man." "I don't want to be a famous man." "Why not?" "Well, as I am now, people address me respectfully as Wil iam Henry." "Yes," "And if I were famous they would slap me on the back and call me Bill." LETTERS EROM THE CORNERS.

The Church Social. NECK OR NOTHIN HALL. KILKENNY CORNERS. R. EDITUR: VI tellin you in my last we wus a goin to hav achurch soshal, an we did at the appinted Willam Henery an all

of us went over an we hed a fust rate time. Willam Henery he et and et, till I most thot hed bust his self, but he didnt, an every thing passed of reel

I beleave I tole you that each one of us thet wus onto a commity hed to talk fur five minits to everyone thet their names wus onto the keerds we

Well, my keerd hed the young docter man, an the preacher, an Mis Giles, Peter Roper, Smantha Cruthers, ole Zeke Jackson, an Mis Perkins, frum over on Spider Crick, and a hull lot I hed to talk to every one of em fur

five minnits, an not enny longer, fur when the bell rung we hed to giv rite up an make off fur the next one.
Rite there is where the trubble begun-a havin to giv up an leave rite in the middle of a cunversin.

I hed to leave the young docter man rite in the middle of an awful interestin diogenese of a case of sickness over to Spider Crick. It so kindy flambergasted me a hevin to leave so unsarymuniously thet when I got over to where the preacher sot I jest kindy goshed out: "Do you beleave into the immulsion?" when I wint to say "immersion.

Thet wus jist the way it went, everybuddy a makin mistakes.

We hed lots o fun, tho, an Will-am Henery he didnt git into not a single scrummage, I spose twos cause twos into the church house. Mis Perkins, to be sure, she was a goin to send fur me to cum over sum day afore

I 'spose Mary Hanner, thet is the oldest gal, is a goin to git married.
Oh, yes, the Cronkses an Parsonses

air a gittin over there furs sum. You see Tom Tilbert he stept in an claimed all the turkeys es his'n (the Tilbertses aint in our set), and so the others turned again him, sole the fouls, an divided the munny, so I reckon the'l be quite frenly agin.

I furgot to tell you that the schoolmarm hed to talk to the widder fur five minnits, to the soshal. I tel you they didn't do mutch talkin, an ef Jerry an Simeon hedn't bin ther I guess the'd a hed sum words.

Everybuddy hed a good time I guess, ennyways I wus awful tired when we got home, an by the time I hed wound the clock, spunged my bred, kivered up the fire, an locked the house, Willam Henery, he wus to bed, a snorin like sixty.

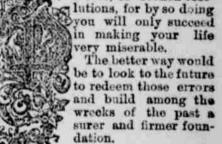
I got into bed an scrouged up again the wall, but he snored so awful it made the bedsted shake, an I jist coudn't go to sleep. So I jist gouged my elbow into his ribs an he turned over onto his side, and then I got sum

We air a goin to hev a quiltin an woodchoppin nex week. I didn't want it, but hed to give in. Willam Henery he hes butchered a hog an the ole lineback cow, an I'm a goin to kil sum ole roosters, so I guess we'll hev feed enough; but I do dred a gittin reddy fur it. The schoolmarm has got her litanny sciety to runnin. We air a goin ez quick ez my corns git so's I kin walk. I'm a docterin 'em now, but they air awful sore yit. Well, I mus quit an pare my corns an chop up the mincement fur the pise fur the quiltin an choppin. Yourn,

HESTER ANN SCOOPER. Chicago Ledger.

LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE.

BY JEFFIE FORBUSH HANAFORD. O not mourn over past errors, or broken reso-



Use every effort to please, and be of service to others, and, although you may not realize it at the time, you will increase your own happiness ten-fold.

I think it is the universal experience of all, at some time during their life, to live through dark hours of trial. temptation and doubt when they are unable to look on the bright side, and feel that life is a burden too heavy to bear. But we should not give way to such despondent feelings.

Endeavor with all your strength to make the most of life's advantages and to cultivate a cheerful disposition, which is without doubt the speediest method of dispelling the threatening clouds that will occasionally darken the sunshine of our existence.

Then look on the bright side, and at the same time time remember that even at its best the bright side is sometimes overcast by shadows. Yet these shadows can be quickly dispersed if we will exercise our will-power and rise above their depressing influence. And in order to do this we must not forget that much of our present happinesss lies in the cultivation of bright thoughts, which give us contented minds, and the power to overcome our naturally despondent dispositions.

# Biscuit Ware.

Biscuit in pottery is the term applied to porcelain and other earthenware after the first firing, and before it has received the laze and empellishments. In this condition the ware is very perous, adheres to the tongue when placed upon it, and allows water to percolate free y through its pores. The unglazed bottle- employed in cooling water are examples of biscuit ware.